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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 243662

NODIS
WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 16822 ACTION SECSTATE OCT 11

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 16822

NODIS

FOR UNDERSEC HABIB, DEPASSTSEC VELIOTES AND DEPASSIST SEC
BARBOUR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, EGY, IT, US
SUBJ: MIG-21 MAINTENANCE

REF (A) CAIRO 16774, (B) STATE 240414,

1. COL O'MALLEY AND JOINT AMERICAN/ITALIAN TEAM ARRIVED SUNDAY EVENING AS SCHEDULED. AMB MET THIS MORNING WITH O'MALLEY, DATT, AIRA AND EMBOFF FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF PROJECT. O'MALLEY OUTLINED HIS INSTRUCTIONS AND RECENTLY CONDUCTED DISCUSSIONS WITH ITALIAN COMPANIES. AT NOON TODAY AMB TOOK GROUP TO MEET WITH GEN GAMASY. AS AGREED UPON,
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INITIAL MEETING WITH GAMASY (WHO ALSO HAD PRESENT EGYPTIAN AVM MAHMOUD SHAKER ABDEL MONIEM) WAS LIMITED TO AMB, O'MALLEY, DATT AND AIRA.

2. IN INTRODUCING O'MALLEY, AMB RECALLED PRES CARTER'S COMMITMENT TO PRES SADAT TO ASSIST IN ARRANGING FACILITIES FOR MIG ENGINE AND AIRFRAME OVERHAUL AND SUBSEQUENT DEPLOY-

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MENT OF A "LOCKHEED" EXPLORATORY TEAM TO SURVEY EXISTING
REPAIR FACILITIES. COL O'MALLEY HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THAT
TEAM. SINCE THAT TIME, AN ACTIVE EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO
FIND SUITABLE REPAIR FACILITIES AND, AS SEC VANCE TOLD
PRES SADAT DURING HIS ALEXANDRIA VISIT, FACILITIES WHICH
WE BELIEVE TO BE SUITALBE HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN ITALY.

3. O'MALLEY THEN OUTLINED FOR GAMASY AND MONIEM HIS DISCUSSIONS
WITH AERITALIA, ALFA-ROMEO, AND AERMACCHI AND INTEREST THESE
COMPANIES HAVE EXPRESSED IN UNDERTAKING MIG ENGINE AND AIR-
FRAME REPAIR WORK. GE AND LOCKHEED WOULD PROVIDE TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE TO THESE ITALIAN COMPANIES. PURPOSE OF GROUP'S
PRESENT VISIT TO EGYPT WAS TO REVIEW WITH EGYPTIAN AIRFORCE
ITS REQUIREMENTS AND PROPOSED SCHEDULES SO THAT A FORMAL
"PROPOSAL" COULD BE PRESENTED TO GOE FOR CONSIDERATION.
O'MALLEY EMPHASIZED THAT ITALIAN COMPANIES HAVE BEEN MADE AWARE
OF URGENCY GOE ATTACHES TO THIS WORK. GAMASY EXPRESSED APP-
RECIATION.

4. GAMASY THEN MET WITH LARGER GROUP. OTHER EGYPTIAN
OFFICIALS PRESENT WER AVM MONIEM, AND AVM ARIF, AND THREE
EGYPTIAN OFFICERS IDENTIFIED ONLY AS "ENGINEERS". AFTER WEL-
COMING GROUP GAMASY INDICATED EGYPTIAN REQUIREMENT IS TO "OVER-
HAUL" 100 MIG AIRCRAFT ENGINES AND AIRFRMAES IN REMAINING
MONTHS OF 1977 AND THROUGH END OF 1978. OTHER COUNTRIES
(UNSPECIFIED) WERE ALSO HELPING EGYPT BUT HE DID NOT HAVE TO
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MENTION THEM BECAUSE "YOU KNOW WHO THEY ARE SINCE YOU KNOW
THEIR COMPANYS". WHILE IMMEDIATE PROGRAM IS 100 MIG ENGINES
AND AIRFRAMES. GAMASY SAID EGYPT DOES NOT INTEND STOP PROGRAM
IN 1978, IT WILL CONTINUE THEREAFTER IN ORDER TO MEET
EGYPT'S CONTINUING REQUIREMENTS. "EVERY YEAR WE WILL PLAN
ABOUT THE SAME NUMBER--MAYBE MORE, MAYBE LESS". GAMASY INDICATED
GOE WILL PROVIDE ALL INFO NEEDED AND EGYPTIAN "EXPERTS"
AVAILABLE TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS IMMEDIATELY.

5. GAMASY SAID HE WANTED GROUP'S PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE: (A)
HOW MANY MIGS ENGINES AND AIRFRAMES CAN BE OVERHAULED IN
1977 AND THROUGH 1978, (B) CERTAIN PROCEDURAL MATTERS SUCH AS
WHERE WORK IS TO BE DONE; HOW AIRCRAFT ARE TO BE TRANSPORTED
TO ITALY; TIME LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED; HOW MANY AIRCRAFT CAN
BE HANDLED AT ONE TIME; WILL "CHECKING" (PRESUMABLY TESTING,
AFTER OVERHAUL) TAKE PLACE IN ITALY OR IN EGYPT, ETC., AND
(C) WITH WHOM WILL CONTRACT BE SIGNED, I.E., THE THREE ITALIAN
FIRMS OR TWO US FIRMS; AND COSTS. O'MALLEY SAID THE CONTRACT
WILL BE SIGNED WITH THE TWO OR THREE ITALIAN FIRMS, DEPENDING
UPON ARRANGEMENTS TO BE WORKED OUT DURING THE DISCUSSIONS.
A SMALL NUMBER OF TECHNICAL PERSONNEL FROOM GE AND LOCKHEED
WILL BE SUB-CONTRACTED FOR BY ITALIAN FIRMS.

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6. GAMASY CLOSED MEETING BY EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO TEAM MEMBERS FOR COMING TO EGYPT AND HIS HOPE FOR EARLY POSITIVE RESULTS. GROUP BEGAN TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIAN COUNTERPARTS AT 1500 TODAY.

7. DEPT MAY WISH REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO ROME. EILTS
UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE, MEETING REPORTS, CAT-A
Control Number: n/a
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